

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00  
INRE-00 HA-05 MCT-01 TRSE-00 /056 W  
-----106454 201733Z /70

O R 201630Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2248

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

COMSIXTHFLT

DIA

AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL PALERMO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SHAPEUSNR

USCINCEUR, VAIHINGEN, GERMANY

USDOCOSOUTH

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AFOSI DIST 65 ROME IT/IVOA

HG AFOSI WASHDC/IVOAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: RED BRIGADES ANNOUNCE MORO'S EXECUTION IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS

IF ALL "COMMUNIST" PRISONERS NOT FREED; EARLIER DEATH

MESSAGE DISCLAIMED

1. TELEPHONE CALLS TO NEWSPAPERS IN MILAN, GENOA AND TURIN

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LED TO THE MID-DAY DISCOVERY APRIL 20 OF A NEW AND LENGTHY MESSAGE FROM THE RED BRIGADES. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE PRESS REPORTS THAT A PHOTOGRAPH OF MORO HOLDING AN APRIL 19 EDITION OF LA REPUBBLICA WAS DISCOVERED IN ROME FOLLOWING ANOTHER TELEPHONE ALERT. NUMBERED COMMUNIQUE SEVEN, THE LATEST MESSAGE PRESENTS THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTY (DC) AND THE GOVERNMENT WITH AN ULTIMATUM TO RELEASE "THE

HUNDREDS OF COMMUNIST PRISONERS OF THE IMPERIALIST STATE"  
WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER 1500 ITALIAN TIME  
APRIL 20. IF THE DC DOES NOT REPLY "CLEARLY AND DEFIN-  
ITIVELY" WITHIN THAT TIME, THE TERRORISTS STATE THEY WILL  
ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT THE DEATH SENTENCE  
GIVEN TO MORO BY "THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL." THE MESSAGE  
ALSO BRANDS AS "FALSE AND PROVOCATORY" THE COMMUNIQUE  
DISCOVERED IN ROME ON APRIL 18 WHICH CLAIMED THAT MORO HAD  
BEEN EXECUTED AND HIS BODY THROWN IN A MOUNTAIN LAKE EAST  
OF ROME. THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE NEW RED BRIGADE MESSAGE  
DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE IN DOUBT.

2. THE LANGUAGE OF COMMUNIQUE NUMBER SEVEN IS BRUTAL AND  
REPLETE WITH REVOLUTIONARY JARGON VILLIFYING THE DC, THE  
GOVERNMENT AND THE "IMPERIALIST" STATE. IT ACCUSES THE  
DC AND ITS ASSOCIATES OF THE POLITICAL AND PHYSICAL  
GENOCIDE OF THE "COMMUNIST VANGUARD." IT CHARGES THAT DC  
POLITICAL LEADERS (AND ANDREOTTI IN PARTICULAR) HAVE BEEN  
UNWILLING TO NEGOTIATE MORO'S RELEASE BECAUSE THEY STAND  
TO BENEFIT ("CALCULATED, PERSONAL POLITICAL INTERESTS")  
BY MORO'S ELIMINATION.

3. THE RED BRIGADES MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY REJECT THE DC'S  
RECENT "HUMANITARIAN APPEAL" FOR MORO'S SAFETY. THE DC'S  
RESPONSE, THEY STATE, MUST BE POLITICAL, NOT HUMANITARIAN.  
IN SO DOING, THE BRIGADES IMPLICITLY REJECT THE RECENT  
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OFFERS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (AT THE REQUEST OF  
MORO'S FAMILY) AND CARITAS (SPONTANEOUSLY) TO MEDIATE  
MORO'S RELEASE. COMMENT: DC LEADERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE  
CLOSE TO MORO SUCH AS PARTY SECRETARY ZACKGNINI, HAVE  
AGAIN BEEN PUT ON THE SPOT BY THE RED BRIGADES INSISTENCE  
ON POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT.  
THIS IS SOMETHING THAT THE DC AND THE GOVERNMENT (SUPPORTED  
BY THE OTHER PARTIES AND PARTICULARLY THE COMMUNISTS) HAVE  
REFUSED TO DO FOR OVER A MONTH. END COMMENT.

4. THROUGHOUT THEIR COMMUNIQUE, THE BRIGADES TALK ABOUT  
THE FREEING OF "COMMUNIST PRISONERS." IT IS CLEAR FROM THE  
CONTEXT AS WELL AS THE CONTENT OF OTHER MESSAGES THAT BY  
"COMMUNIST," RED BRIGADE AS WELL AS OTHER EXTREME-LEFT  
PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS ARE INTENDED. WHILE THERE IS NO  
SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE FREEING OF THE CURCIO GROUP NOW  
UNDERGOING TRIAL IN TURIN, THEY WOULD UNDOUBTLY BE PART  
OF THE "HUNDREDS OF COMMUNIST PRISONERS" THE BRIGADES  
SEEK TO FREE.

5. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY THE BRIGADES WAITED THREE DAYS  
BEFORE DISOWNING THE APRIL 18 MESSAGE WHICH HAS HAD

INVESTIGATORS SEEKING MORO'S BODY IN AN ISOLATED AND SNOW-COVERED MOUNTAIN VALLEY. WHETHER THE TERRORISTS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE "FALSE" MESSAGE OR NOT, THE EFFECT OF THE FRUSTRATING SEARCH WAS TO CREATE AN EMOTIONALLY DRAINED ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE LATEST GRISLY MESSAGE WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.GARDNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXECUTIONS, COMMUNISTS, PRISONERS, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978ROME07351  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780169-0532  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**SAS ID:** 2902298  
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**Subject:** RED BRIGADES ANNOUNCE MORO'S EXECUTION IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS IF ALL \"COMMUNIST\" PRISONERS NOT FREED; EARLIER DEATH MESSAGE DISCLAIMED  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT, RED BRIGADE, (MORO, ALDO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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